

INFORMATION REPORT

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

EVALUATE

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AREA OF RESEARCH

SCOPE OF RESEARCH

RESULTS OR PROGRESS

CENTRAL ASIA.....
Aral-Caspian plain.....

Exploration of "new suitable areas for cotton-growing" (7/29)
"Aral-Caspian expedition" working on problem of reclaiming deserts of Central Asia and of utilizing waters of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya flowing into the Aral Sea "to irrigate at least 10,000,000 hectares on the Aral-Caspian plain." (7/22; 7/29)
"Kara Kum Project" (underway for 9 months at time of report) investigating future canal projects "to make fertile vast area of 3 or 4 million hectares of uncultivated land" (4/22); study of a canal site between the Amu Darya and the Murgab River (5/25)

Expediency of digging canal between Amu Darya and Murgab confirmed.

KAZAKHSTAN.....

Astro-botanical research, headed by Foundation of this new science, Tikhov, in high mountain regions of Republic. Tikhov's theory "was first to prove that planet Mars possesses vegetation similar to the plant life on Earth, notably in its Arctic and Alpine regions." Aim of expedition--to study Juniper, Edelweiss, and other plants similar to those growing on Mars. (9/16)

Plants photographed with help of ultra-violet and infra-red rays; spectrographic pictures made
"New phenomena hitherto unknown to science relative to the fluorescence of flowers discovered."

Betpak-Dala Desert.....

Expedition to study the reclamation of tracts of the "Hungry Steppe" for pasture land. The "Station has well-equipped laboratories for veterinary work, irrigation, and soil science, and a herd of 15,000 for experiments." The expedition is to remain in the desert "throughout the year." (4/10)

Altai Mountains.....

Study of polymetallic Altai ores (4/26)

"Effective methods of extracting rare metals from Altai ores; ... found that 6 to 7 times more metal can be extracted than heretofore."

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TADJIKISTAN.....

Investigation, headed by Prof. Alexander Kirichenko, of the Republic's fauna. (8/16)

Returned with "a valuable collection which, after being studied, will be submitted to the Zoological Museum of the USSR Academy of Sciences."

Pamir region.....

Study of frequent earthquakes in the mountain region near the Pamir. (One of 12 "big expeditions dispatched this year to various districts of the country by the Geophysics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.") (6/17)

TURKMENIA.....

22 scientific expeditions--geo-chemical study of oil-bearing areas. (6/5)
Research in geological structure of Kopet Dag Range foothills. (6/5)

BUKHARA.....

"Prospecting bureau" investigating question of exploiting the oil fields. (7/31)

SIBERIA.....

"Several expeditions" of astronomers and astro-physicists to observe solar eclipse of 9 May 1948. Observation centers in Vladivostok and several other points in Siberia. (5/8)

Krasnoyarsk & Minusinsk area, Tuva AR...

Search for minerals, particularly iron ore; and research for improvement of agriculture. (4/22)

Yakutsk Province.....

Geologist Zolnikov in charge of study of soil and flora studies in center of Province. (4/27)

Lena-Aldan watershed.....

Expedition, led by Dr. Kushin, to lakes of Lena-Aldan watershed. (4/27)

Lena River.....

Study of fish life under direction of Biologist Mukhomediev. (4/27)

Usui Taiga.....

Astro-physical study of the so-called Sikhote- alinsk Meteorite, headed by Ponton, magnetol- ogist of Institute of Geophysics of USSR Ac. of Sc. (6/2)

Irkutsk Province.....

Geological research. (4/17)

Discovery "of an industrial coal strata in the Galmets region."

Lake Baikal.....

"Extensive research" of the world's deepest water reservoir, under direction of the Limnological Laboratory of the USSR Ac. of Sc. Other lakes of the country also being studied. (6/21)

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GROUP AND DESIGNATION

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RESULTS OF PROGRESS

SAKHALIN.....

Establishment of a new reserve for pre-
servation of the rich forests and
animals of central & southern Sakhalin;
to comprise 270,000 square kilometers.
(6/10)

ESTHONIA.....

20 expeditions to study the "Republic's
natural wealth and history"; survey of
50,000 hectares of peat lands for new
briquette factories; two soil-study
expeditions in northern Estonia; ex-
peditions "to study the economics,
history, and development of Estonian
farming,... experimental and clinical
medicine, archaeology, literature, and
language." (6/12)

Discovery of lime deposits which,
added to the soil, "will permit
an increase in annual harvest
yields by 100,000 tons in the
southern areas of the Republic
alone."

LITHUANIA.....

Examination of peat deposits. (4/26)

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